

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A work surface guide for portable hand-operated power tools allows their adaptation to a fixed-bed form (for example, a circular saw may be used as a radial arm saw or sliding miter saw). A pair of parallel rails are spaced laterally outwardly and above a table or other work surface so that the power tool may slide along these rails to cut matter located in a cutting area situated below and beneath the rails (and protruding from the edge of the work surface beneath the rails). A board fence is pivotally attached to one of the rails to extend onto the work surface, thereby allowing the board fence to be adjusted to some desired angle, a board to be situated against the board fence to protrude beneath the rails and into the cutting area, and the power tool to be run along the rails to cut the board. ~~The work surface guide is readily removable and replaceable on different work surfaces, allowing it to be easily transported to different locations for use with different power tools.~~

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 2 line 10-page 3 line 8 as follows:

Referring to **FIGS. 1 and 2**, a preferred version of the work surface guide **100** includes an elongated inner guide rail **102** and an elongated outer guide rail **104** aligned at least substantially parallel to the inner guide rail **102**. A power tool (e.g., the circular saw **12** shown in **FIG. 2**) may slide or otherwise ride on the inner and outer guide rails **102** and **104** so that its cutting head extends between the guide rails **102** and **104** into a cutting area **110** defined below and between the guide rails **102** and **104**. Opposing spaced frame members **106** support the guide rails **102** and **104** and extend downwardly to terminate in frame member attachment ends **108** which are adapted to affix to a mounting surface (e.g., to a table **10** as shown in **FIG. 2**) to support the guide rails **102** and **104** in a plane spaced above the plane of the mounting surface. This is preferably done by having each frame member attachment end **108** include a downwardly extending vertical leg **112**, and a horizontal leg **114** extending from the vertical leg **112** (and away from the ~~from the~~ inner and outer guide rails **102** and **104**), so that the vertical and horizontal legs **112** and **114** define a mounting mouth **116** which can receive a corner edge of a mounting surface **10** therein (e.g., with the horizontal leg **114** resting atop the mounting surface **10** and the vertical leg **114** abutting the side surface of the corner edge of the mounting surface **10**). The frame members **106** thereby support the guide rails **102** and **104** above the mounting surface **10** with the cutting area **110** located adjacent to the corner edge of the mounting surface **10**. The frame members **106** include cutting tool end stops **120** extending above the frame members **106**, whereby a power tool **12** traveling on the guide rails **102** and **104** travels between the cutting tool end stops **120**. Additionally, at least one of the guide rails **102** and **104** preferably includes a cutting tool side stop **122** which extends above the guide rails **102** and **104**, whereby a power tool **12** traveling on the guide rails **102** and **104** travels adjacent the cutting tool side stop **122**, and may ride against the cutting tool side stop **122** to better ensure that the cutting head of the power tool **12** travels in a path parallel to the guide rails **102** and **104**.

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 10 line 1-page 11 line 4 as follows:

Initially, the inner board fence end **140** is adapted to slidably receive a sacrificial elongated cut guide fence member **144** therein, thereby allowing the cut guide fence member **144** to be adjustably extended into the cutting area **110** from the board fence inner end **140** (or entirely retracted within the inner board fence end **140**, if desired). Where the board fence **124** is defined as a tubular member having an open inner end **140**, this open inner end **140** is preferably sized and configured such that it can telescopically receive a length of some commonly-sized stock lumber (or some other common, relatively inexpensive, and easily cuttable material) to serve as the cut guide fence member **144**. For example, the board fence **124** might be sized to telescopically receive a length of 1 X 1 lumber, 1 X 2 lumber, or 2 X 4 lumber therein. When the cut guide fence member **144** is received within the board fence **124**, it will swing with the board fence **124** within the cutting area **110**, and will effectively extend the board fence **124** into the cutting area **110**. During cutting, the end of the cut guide fence member **144** may be cut off, and its cut end will serve to indicate to the user where any subsequent cuts will be made on a board **14** resting against the board fence **124**. Thus, when a user wants a board **14** cut at a specific location, the user can simply situate the board **14** against the side surface **138** of the board fence **124** so that the desired cutting location is aligned with the cut end of the cut guide fence member **144**, and the user may then drive the power tool **12** across the guide rails **102** and **104** to cut the board **14** at the desired location. When the user wishes to ~~realign to board~~ realign the board fence **124** to a different angle (such that the cut end of the cut guide fence member **144** will no longer accurately indicate the path of travel of the cutting head), the user may simply pull an additional length of the cut guide fence member **144** from the board fence **124** so that the end of the cut guide fence member **144** may again be cut off to indicate the location of subsequent cuts. Some means for releasibly locking the cut guide fence member **144** with respect to the board fence **124** is preferably provided, and as best seen in **FIGS. 3** and **4**, this may take the form of a thumbwheel **146** which has a threaded member (not shown) extending therefrom through the wall of the board fence **124** to engage the cut guide fence member **144**. Thus, the thumbwheel **146** may be actuated to releasibly engage the cut guide fence member **144** within the board fence **124** once it is extended from the board fence **124** by some desired length.